

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS-LETTER

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WASHINGTON WORKSHOP ON WORLD ORDER

The Department of Social Welfare has announced plans for a three-day workshop on world order to be held in Washington March 11 to 13. Sixty men and women, invited on the basis of their positions of leadership, their known concern for social action, and their proximity to Washington, will participate. The National City Christian Church and the Columbia Heights Christian Church are sharing the service as hosts.

After a period of orientation with respect to the present world situation and with respect to the political implications of our Christian faith, a major part of the first day will be devoted to an examination of the political information and action programs of the several Protestant groups which maintain representatives in Washington. The crucial issues of special concern to Christian citizens will be outlined to the group by some of these representatives.

The rest of the time will be used in discussion of these issues under the leadership of members of the State Department, the War Department, the Federation of American (Atomic) Scientists, The C. I. O., the A. F. of L., the New Council of American Business, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples, the B'nai B'rith, and other specialists in these matters, including members of Congress.

At a dinner on March 12 the Disciple members of Congress, five Senators and twelve Representatives, are to be guests.

WORLD GOVERNMENT PLEA CRITICIZED

Confronted with a barrage of propaganda in favor of world government, the Church Peace Union, in a statement submitted by its committee on policy and approved by the trustees of the organization points out that world government, however attractive as an ultimate goal, is not a present possibility. The February *World Alliance News Letter* declares:

"The Church Peace Union shares the hope that a world government can ultimately be formed. It notes, however, that the present movement is associated in the public mind with several groups which are actively promoting the movement through newspapers and pamphlets, and which strongly emphasize the weakness and inadequacy of the United Nations so as to undermine confidence in it and in some instances directly attack it. It must be admitted that the United Nations does not have the power to deal effectively with some conditions that affect world peace. This fact was frankly faced by the World Conference in San Francisco in April, 1945; but the conclusion was forced upon the delegates that the constitution of the United Nations goes as far as the governments of the world, including our own, are willing to go under present conditions. Experience thus far has confirmed this conclusion. We believe that the needed additions should be sought by amendments from time to time as world sentiment is prepared to accept them, and that the process should be by evolution of the United Nations rather than by an immediate effort to 'transform' the United Nations and 'reconstitute' the General Assembly into a World Government, which, however attractive as an ideal, cannot be secured for an indefinite period. It is clear that all that can be done now, must be done through the United Nations. Whatever may become possible a decade or more hence, the present alternative is not between the United Nations and an ideally better organization, but between the United Nations and no world organization at all. Therefore the Church Peace Union . . . recommends whole-hearted support of the United Nations as the only existing intergovernmental agency for the promotion of world peace."

MRS. RUTH D. ESTES JOINS STAFF

The board of trustees of The United Christian Missionary Society on January 19, approved the election of Mrs. Ruth D. Estes as national director of community service in the department of social welfare. She will assume her new post on March 1.

For the past ten years Mrs. Estes has served as pastor's assistant and as director of religious education at Third Christian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, in which capacities she has had wide experience in the community relationships of that large and effective congregation. A native of St. Louis, Michigan, she is a graduate of Transylvania College and has completed all the necessary work for a Master's degree in religious education in the College of the Bible, except for the writing of the required thesis.

As national director of the church and community service Mrs. Estes will be available to give guidance to local churches in matters relating to community relationships, especially in matters relating to community social service agencies, relief, character building agencies, adult education projects, juvenile delinquency, and the like. One of her immediate responsibilities will be material aid relief, working in cooperation with Church World Service, Inc., and other church relief agencies in securing clothing, shoes, bedding, hospital supplies, and other essential materials for war devastated areas in Europe and Asia. She will also have charge of the Service Gift program in cooperation with the department of missionary organizations and will be available to advise women's councils and other local church groups in the planning of such projects. She will take over responsibility for the department's program of migrant work in cooperation with the Home Missions Council of North America and will serve as a member of the Children's Work Committee of the Curriculum Committee. After a period spent in acquainting herself with the routine of the office of the department of social welfare Mrs. Estes will be available for field service with state groups and with local churches, Sunday schools, youth groups, and women's organizations.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS PAROCHIAL SCHOOL BUS LAW

The U. S. Supreme Court on February 10 handed down a decision upholding the New Jersey law which permits the state to reimburse parents for bus fare of students attending Roman Catholic parochial schools. Under the law public funds are used to repay parents for bus fares of 20 and 22 cents daily expended by their children in attending parochial schools. The complainant sought to prevent such payments on the ground that the practice violates the American principle of separation of church and state. The majority opinion written by Justice Black took the position that the New Jersey law is basically social legislation for the benefit of the students and their families and that any benefit to the church is purely incidental. Justice Black argued that the new Jersey law, as applied, does no more than provide a general program to help parents get their children, regardless of their religion, safely and expeditiously to and from accredited schools. He limited the effect of his decision by declaring that contribution of public funds to the support of an institution which teaches the tenets and faith of any church would be a violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution. The decision was 5 to 4, with Justices Jackson, Rutledge, Frankfurter and Burton dissenting. Dr. Louie D. Newton, Atlanta, Georgia, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, who was present when the decision was handed down, branded the ruling a "dark shadow . . . portending a great and terrible cloud that may be drifting over every hamlet and dale."

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS - LETTER

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NO CONTRIBUTED RELIEF GOODS SOLD

Taking cognizance of the widespread publicity given to a case in which a South Dakota woman is alleged to have purchased from a mail order house in Chicago a dress which she had previously contributed to a relief agency (later investigation revealed that the dress had been stolen from a relief shipment), Dr. Leslie B. Moss, director of Promotion for Church World Service, Inc., under date of January 26 sent the following telegram to *United Press, Associated Press* and to the *New York Times*:

"Recent broadcast reports of relief clothing sold in this country have brought a flood of protests and inquiries regarding church program of contributed supplies, although the broadcast and news stories did not refer to Church World Service or other church-collected clothing. In 1946 Protestant churches of this country unitedly shipped overseas twelve million pounds of clothing, bedding, shoes, milk, vitamins, babies' and children's kits, cereal, medicinal supplies contributed by millions of church members and interested citizens. Clothing given of such high quality that ninety-five percent has been shipped with a minimum of processing expense. These supplies were distributed by church groups in 28 countries. Eyewitness reports and photographs attest deep gratitude, new hope and courage imparted by these gifts to those whose misery and dejection and illness hinders recovery."

"Thousands of volunteer workers in this country and abroad have reduced costs of handling and have received wonderful inspiration from participating in this outstanding Christian ministry. With such widespread voluntary effort not always possible to prevent occasional accidents in handling or judgment in selection. Churches have uniformly taken the position material shared should be of quality befitting gifts to one's friends. Policy on handling negligible amount substandard goods is to donate to local relief agencies."

"Continued reports from church sources abroad indicate dire need and extreme suffering many lands will only be met if church people in this country send mounting stream of garments, shoes and bedding. Church World Service pledges its best efforts to ship promptly such gifts as American church people will share with those in need and hopes they will help deliver goods by adding fifteen cents pound to cover shipment abroad."

At its biennial meeting in Seattle in December the Federal Council of Churches issued a statement declaring, "In the year 1947, people of more than thirty countries in Europe and Asia will hang their hope of survival and recovery on the response of American church people . . . To carry on this tremendous ministry will call for sacrifice, and continued support for this program." Meanwhile a U. N. committee reports that with the end of UNRRA six European countries—Austria, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, and Yugoslavia will require a total of \$583 million in relief supplies in addition to what they can pay for. The Emergency Food Council reports that in the Lower Danube Basin and in adjacent parts of the USSR food conditions range from no better to much worse and that in India and the Far East the danger is by no means past.

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY FOR JAPAN

Ever since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki a movement has been growing for the establishment of a world Christian university in Japan. It was first given official recognition at a special meeting of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America at Columbus, Ohio, March 4-5, 1946. Following that meeting Dr. T. T. Brumbaugh, executive secretary of the Detroit Council of Churches and former missionary in Japan, was elected executive director of the movement.

On October 20, Dr. Brumbaugh left for Tokyo by air, arriving in that city on October 26. On his return to New York after more than two months spent in Japan, he reported to the provisional committee under date of January 29, 1947, on the results of his visit.

After visiting such centers as Yokohama, Kyoto, Kobe, Osaka, Nishinomiya, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Sendai and consulting with religious and educational leaders as to the nature of the higher educational needs of Japan today, Dr. Brumbaugh reported as follows:

"The testimony (of important personages in educational, political and business as well as religious circles) was unanimously an endorsement of the project with the assurance that not only was the proposal timely but that only such a great and broadly conceived Christian strategy can adequately prepare the leaders of Japan for life in tomorrow's world. Especially did the international feature of the proposal appeal as we made it clear that this would not be merely another Japanese Christian school, nor even a Japanese-American institution, but a genuine center of world-mindedness, with both faculty and students from other lands and cultures. Prince Higashi-kuni, who was premier when the Allied forces landed in Japan, assured us that Japan was ready for all the internationalism that could now be taught or practiced; and he thought the school should be called a "Sekai-Daigaku (World University)." The fact that we desired that it should also be co-educational and specifically Christian, though not ecclesiastical, also brought wide approval, for, they said, "We are ready now for democracy at its best, and we believe American Christianity can give us the best there is."

Project Approved By Japanese Christian Leaders

At its meeting in October the United Church of Christ in Japan gave approval to the project and appointed a special committee headed by its moderator to give cooperation. The national Christian Education Association, which includes representatives of all the Christian schools in Japan, had previously appointed a strong committee to assist in the project. This group held a two-day retreat during Dr. Brumbaugh's visit, from which came additional support and suggestions for the University. Other groups, including the Laymen's Association, which includes many of Japan's Christian educators, the Bunka Kyokwai, a group of Christian intellectuals, representative women educators and educators of women were invited to give their opinions and suggestions regarding the founding of the new institution. Early in December a general meeting of over forty leaders of Japan's spiritual and educational life was held, at which time the group resolved itself into a committee of sponsors and elected an executive committee of fifteen to promote the enterprise in Japan in cooperation with a similar committee in America. On December 23 the proposal was specifically approved by resolution, a series of agreements and recommendations adopted and an organization formed. In addition to authorizing employment of a full-time director, a budget, and the opening of an office, the following fields of study were designated in which courses of graduate or professional grade might in due time be inaugurated: literature, philosophy and religion, education and pedagogy, science and technology, agriculture and rural problems, medicine and public health, social sciences. Committees were set up to consider finances and administration and needs for buildings and equipment. It was agreed that one-half the administrative budget

(Continued on page 4)

ON SOCIAL FRONTIERS

Yale Summer School of Alcohol Studies

The 1947 summer session of the Yale School of Alcohol Studies has been announced for July 6 through July 31, with Dr. E. M. Jellinek as director. The courses will be open to school teachers and school administrators, clergymen and denominational workers, welfare workers, probation officers, and others engaged professionally in activities in which a knowledge of the problems of alcohol would be of advantage. Tuition will be \$100 for the session, plus \$10 registration fee. Students will be housed in Yale dormitories at \$7 per week, though outside arrangements may be made if desired. Meals may be secured through the School at approximately \$15 per week. A limited number of fellowship and scholarship grants are available. Disciples desiring to attend should write James A. Crain, 222 S. Downey, Indianapolis 7, Ind.

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World Congress of Religion Planned

The Church Peace Union at its annual meeting in New York in January announced plans for a World Conference of Religion in support of the United Nations to be held in October, 1948, in the United States. Invitations will be sent out immediately to one thousand men and women selected from the major faiths all over the world. Delegates will be asked to support four points as basic to the purpose and program of the conference: a belief in a Supreme Being, a desire for fellowship, understanding, and the practice of human brotherhood; cooperation to help secure international justice; promote goodwill, and provide for all men everywhere the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman was elected president succeeding Dr. William Pierson Merrill, who had served thirty years.

* * *

Indiana Adopts "Anti-Hate" Law

The Indiana General Assembly has passed a bill outlawing "hate groups" and has sent the measure to the Governor for signature. Since it was an Administration measure official approval is regarded as certain. The law forbids the formation of organizations whose purposes or programs tend to stir up hatred of any group on account of race, creed or color. Violation is punishable by heavy fine and/or imprisonment. James A. Crain served as chairman of a citizens committee which offered suggestions for strengthening the measure and safeguarding civil liberties and sponsored the measure before the legislative assembly. From the activities of this committee a provisional Indiana Council for Unity has developed.

* * *

Whiskey Withdrawal Up

The mid-year report of the Bureau of Internal Revenue for the period July 1-December 31, 1946, shows a decrease of nearly 42 million gallons in distilled spirits production, but an increase of more than 15 million gallons in the amount of spirits withdrawn from bonded warehouses by payment of the \$9 per gallon excise tax for distribution and sale. The excess of withdrawals over production was made possible by 380,534,370 gallons on hand at the end of December, 1945. The report shows that between July 1 and December 31, 1946, production of whiskey, brandy, rum, gin, and spirits totalled 142,638,947 gallons, while the \$9 per gallon tax was paid on 102,246,764 gallons withdrawn for sale. Stocks on hand in warehouses at the end of December amounted to 433,116,917 gallons. Federal revenue (exclusive of state and local taxes and not including taxes on beer, wines, wholesale and retail dealers' licenses, etc.) amounted to \$920,200,876 for the six month period indicated. Assuming that the second six month period (January 1-June 30, 1947) will show approximately the same production and withdrawal figure, it is evident that federal revenues from distilled spirits alone is nearing the two billion mark annually. If beer and wine excise taxes be added, the figure will be nearer three billion. This means that the estimated retail expenditure for alcoholic beverages in the United States is probably far in excess of the \$7,100,000,000 estimated.

DISCIPLES REPRESENTED AT PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE

Disciples of Christ were well represented at the National Conference on the Church and Economic Life at Pittsburgh, Pa., February 18-20. The conference, called under the auspices of the Federal Council of Churches, sought to determine the crucial problems in economic life with which church people ought to be concerned, the responsibility of the church in the economic sphere, and to devise a program of action for local churches in dealing with economic problems. The 400 delegates who met for three days in the William Penn Hotel were approximately one-third from business, organized labor and agriculture, one-third pastors, educators and denominational executives, and one-third professional men, public officials, housewives, etc.

Three preliminary documents were submitted to the conference for consideration, though it was emphasized that they were used only to the extent they were found to be valuable and that any findings should be the result of study and discussion in the three groups of the conference.

The Disciples of Christ delegates were appointed by Dr. Hampton Adams, president of the International Convention. The following were in attendance:

- J. Edwin Carothers, Alpine, Tennessee, manager of a timber cooperative
- Dr. Edwin A. Elliott, Fort Worth, Texas, regional director of the National Labor Relations Board
- Harold E. Fey, Chicago, Ill., associate editor *Christian Century*
- Joe Gividen, Middletown, Ohio, chairman employees committee, American Rolling Mills Company
- Eldred W. Johnston, Marion, Ohio, pastor
- John Long, Edwards, Mississippi, president Southern Christian Institute, representing Southern agriculture
- Robert S. Lund, St. Louis, Mo., retired manufacturer and former president National Association of Manufacturers
- C. O. McAfee, Macon, Georgia, manufacturer
- Edward S. Moreland, Cincinnati, Ohio, pastor
- Dr. John Nelson, Clarksburg, W. Virginia, pastor
- Dr. Henry Noble Sherwood, Indianapolis, Indiana, Board of High Education
- Al Whitehouse, Covington, Ky., district representative United Steel Workers and chairman board of officers, Latonia Christian Church
- James D. Wyker, Huntsville, Ohio, farm bureau cooperative educational director
- James A. Crain, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Gaines M. Cook, Indianapolis, Indiana, executive secretary International Convention

Dr. Hampton Adams, who planned to attend, was kept away by parish duties. In addition to the above the following Disciples were in attendance as representatives of other organizations: I. O. Royse, T. T. Swearingen and Robert Tesdel, representing the International Council of Religious Education; Edwin L. Becker, representing the Town and Country Committee of the Home Missions Council; O. Slack Barrett, representing the Cincinnati Council of Churches; H. Parr Armstrong, executive secretary, representing the Oklahoma City Council of Churches.

A more complete report of the findings of the conference will be given next month, but it should be said that the conference, while not willing to go as far as do the Social Ideals of the Churches adopted by the Federal Council a number of years ago, mark a distinct advance in that for the first time in its history the Federal Council brought into its deliberations a group of laymen of widely diverse opinions on economic matters to express themselves on issues that are extremely controversial. The closing day of the conference was devoted to discussion of the findings submitted by the three groups and while the discussion was at times heated and differences of opinion were marked, most of the statements adopted were by a substantial majority of those present. As usual, the extreme conservatives and the extreme radicals were equally disappointed.

LILIENTHAL AND ATOMIC ENERGY

What is behind the fight against the confirmation of David Lilienthal as chairman of the atomic energy commission?

Certain reasons for this opposition are clear enough. "Politics and patronage versus home rule and decentralization is the issue at the source. Other things are incidental," is the way one newspaper editorial sums up the case. This is the recognition that Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee has fought doggedly first against the T.V.A. then against those who have administered the agency according to the law which required that in choice of operating personnel, "No political test or qualification shall be permitted or given consideration, but all such appointments and promotions shall be given and made on the basis of merit and efficiency." A number of other Democrats join McKellar. The opposition of a number of Republicans, particularly those who had distinguished themselves by their anti-New Deal position was launched by Senator Wallace White of Maine, the majority leader. The Scripps-Howard newspapers disclosed the fact that Senator White submitted his statement opposing Lilienthal to Senator McKellar before presenting it to the senate committee. His charge was that Lilienthal had been "restive and defiant of congressional restraints" in directing TVA, and was accordingly "temperamentally unfitted for the chairmanship of the atomic energy commission."

A second charge is that Mr. Lilienthal is a communist or is friendly to communism. Senator Robert Taft, Republican of Ohio, joins in this accusation, stating that the appointee has shown himself "too soft" toward communists and Russia, that he is "a typical power hungry bureaucrat" who knowingly permitted a "communist cell" in the TVA. While being examined on this issue under the probing of Mr. McKellar Lilienthal defined democracy so spontaneously and so impressively and declared his devotion to it so convincingly that some of his opponents charged that it had been previously written by a ghost-writer. To which Lilienthal replied that his answer was like that of Daniel Webster, who, when asked how long he had worked on an apparently extemporaneous speech, replied that he had spent thirty years preparing it.

A third reason for opposition which some observers see is that certain financial interests hope thereby to obtain atomic energy for private rather than public ownership and control. This is just the former opposition to the McMahon bill which vests atomic energy in the federal government as a national monopoly come back in a new guise, according to these observers. These "special interests," so it is remarked, hope to defeat public ownership and control indirectly—a thing they were unable to do directly.

A fourth reason seen by some is that by defeat of Lilienthal—the army would retain control of atomic energy by default. It is recalled that the most vocal critics of the McMahon bill were those who stood for continued military monopoly. It should be noted in this connection that Secretary of War Patterson has urged the confirmation of Lilienthal. But some support is given this view by the statement of Dr. Karl T. Compton, one of the leaders in developing atomic bombs, who on behalf of the atomic scientists has declared that if Lilienthal's confirmation is defeated these scientists will quit the atomic development program en masse, and that it would thus become an "empty shell."

Finally, Marquis Childs has drawn a parallel between this case and that of Justice Louis D. Brandeis, whose appointment to the supreme court by Woodrow Wilson in 1916 was opposed by "the smug, respectable, reactionary," but who was finally confirmed to become one of the most distinguished liberals ever to sit on this high court. "Behind much of the attack on Brandeis was the poison of racism," Childs remarks. "This same poison colors not a little of the prejudice against Lilienthal." David Lilienthal is of Jewish origin, married to a Methodist, both of whom have been active members of the Norris Religious Fellowship, whose minister for many years has been the Rev. T. B. ("Scotty") Cowan, a Scotch Presbyterian.

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY FOR JAPAN [Continued from p. 2] should be secured from Japanese sources and one-half from American sources.

MacArthur and Hirohito Approve

At the close of his visit Dr. Brumbaugh and his three American colleagues were granted an audience with Emperor Hirohito, the first time a group of American missionaries has been so honored. The Emperor gave his approval to the university project, as did also General Douglas MacArthur, who said that he is convinced that only the Christian religion with its emphasis on freedom, because it postulates human dignity, because it believes in God Almighty as creator and sovereign of us all, can make democracy a reality in Japan. Therefore, he is ready to give permission for as many Christian missionaries as can go out to work among the Japanese. "He urges us," said Dr. Brumbaugh, "to use every agency available, especially the radio and the printed page, to get over our message before it is too late." General MacArthur told Dr. Brumbaugh that the American sponsors of the university project are not thinking in large enough terms. Instead of the five million to fifteen million dollars contemplated, he suggested that the goal be fifty million over a period of years.

Foreign Missions Conference Launches Project

In his report to the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, at its annual meeting at Buck Hill Falls, Pa., on January 16, Dr. Brumbaugh made the following recommendations:

1. That the sponsoring agencies in America provide a budget for the salary of a full-time director of the North American committee, an office with secretarial assistance and such other services as are needed, with assurance of a minimum of \$10,000 for a similar committee in Japan for the year 1947.
2. That the Japan Executive Committee be urged to proceed with study by a committee of experts in the several areas of need and report their findings as soon as they have reached conclusions.
3. That it be the acknowledged purpose of the North American Committee to seek the establishment at the earliest possible time of a graduate College of Education in Japan as the first unit of the proposed university.
4. That an effort be made to find and send to Japan during 1947, if possible, one or more Christian experts in the field of education and pedagogy to prepare for the establishment of such a College of Education and to cooperate with educational and religious leaders in Japan and with Allied occupation authorities to rid Japanese education of the virus of nationalism, imperialism and militarism and to substitute more democratic ideas and moral principles which must undergird them, and to open without delay seminars in education for those who are already qualified teachers or are qualified for graduate study and research.
5. The next step should be to send to Japan a well qualified person to inaugurate a program of public relations to provide adult education by radio and press, to rally Christian support and to popularize the university project.
6. That consideration be given as soon as possible to the creation of a central Christian library as a part of the university development and that personnel be sent to develop such a library and promote its use throughout Japan.
7. That as soon as possible colleges of medicine and public health, agriculture and rural problems, science and technology, literature, philosophy and religion, and the social sciences be established.
8. That the North American Committee undertake to find and send abroad properly qualified students for further study and self-improvement, with adequate scholarship aid and that the Japan Committee be urged to take similar action.
9. That a Japan Christian Educational Center be established in this country to provide a library and other forms of enlightenment concerning Japan and the Christian movement there.
10. That a three-year campaign be launched for \$15,000,000 to inaugurate the initial stages of the Christian University in Japan. Approval was given to this recommendation by the Foreign Missions Conference at its Buck Hill Falls meeting.